

a stable object, the base portion having an arcuately-shaped hanger receptacle formed therein that is dimensioned and configured to receive and stabilize a conventional clothing hanger.

3. (Amended) A device for holding and stabilizing a clothing hanger wherein a user employing only one upper extremity may position a hanger thereon for hanging or removing an article of clothing without other assistance, comprising:

- (a) a base adaptable for mounting at a height accessible to a user; and
  - (b) a hanger receptacle formed on said base, said hanger receptacle dimensioned and configured and adapted to receive and hold a conventional clothing hanger, and wherein the base and the hanger receptacle are cooperatively positioned with respect to one another as to prevent a hanger received thereon the hanger receptacle from lateral movement.
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#### Remarks

Claims 1-12 remain in the case. Claims 1-5 stand rejected. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kolton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,074,447).

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's counsel during the interview held on May 21, 2003 with Examiners Calvert and Smith. As a result of that interview, the following remarks are provided.

#### **The Examiner's Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) Should Be Withdrawn**

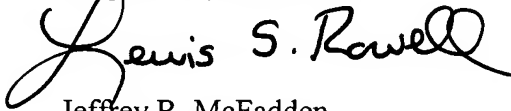
Both the Patent Office and the CAFC (formerly the CCPA) have historically required that a single reference teach each and every element of the claim. That requirement is clear and unequivocal. Atlas Powder v. I.E. DuPont, 750 F.2d 1569, 224 USPQ 409 (CAFC 1984). James Bury Corp. v. Litton Industrial Products, 750 F.2d 1556, 225 USPQ 253 (CAFC 1985).

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kolton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,074,447). During the interview on May 21, 2003, the Examiners and Applicant's counsel discussed a proposed amendment which distinguishes over the prior art. Accordingly, Claims 1-3 are herein amended.

### Conclusion

Applicant believes that this case is now in condition for an immediate allowance with Claims 1-12, and such action is respectfully requested. If any issue remains unresolved, Applicant's counsel would appreciate the opportunity for a telephone interview to expedite allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lewis S. Rowell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lewis" being more prominent and the last name "Rowell" following in a similar style.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE **RECEIVED**

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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A device for supporting and stabilizing a clothing hanger so that a user employing only one extremity can position a hanger thereon for hanging or removing an article of clothing without other assistance, comprising a base [and] having a hanger receptacle formed therein that is dimensioned and configured [and adapted] to receive and stabilize a conventional clothing hanger.
2. (Amended) A device for supporting and stabilizing a clothing hanger so that a user employing only one upper extremity can position a hanger thereon for hanging or removing an article of clothing without other assistance, comprising a base portion adaptable for mounting to a stable object, the base portion having an arcuately-shaped hanger receptacle formed therein that is dimensioned and configured [and adapted] to receive and stabilize a conventional clothing hanger.
3. (Amended) A device for holding and stabilizing a clothing hanger wherein a user employing only one upper extremity may position a hanger thereon for hanging or removing an article of clothing without other assistance, comprising:
  - (a) a base adaptable for mounting at a height accessible to a user; and
  - (b) a hanger receptacle formed on said base, said hanger receptacle dimensioned and configured and adapted to receive and hold a conventional clothing hanger, and wherein the base and the hanger receptacle are cooperatively positioned with respect to one another as to prevent a hanger received thereon the hanger receptacle from lateral movement.